



## Inside this issue

### Compare Legislative Candidates.

Ads are on  
*Pages 2-11.*

Potawatomi Language Story *Page 11*

The Removals, Part 2 *Page 12*

Cultural Heritage Center *Page 13*

CPN Member is Pirates Manager  
*Page 14*



**Walking On *Page 15***

# CPN legislative elections proceed

The Citizen Potawatomi Nation has dived into the process for selecting membership in a 16-member legislature that sets a precedent for Indian tribal governments in the U.S.A. The CPN is the first tribal government to set up legislative districts that encompass the entire U.S.

Thirty-six tribal members filed for election to the 11 seats -three in Oklahoma and the eight outside the state- that are to be filled in this initial legislative election. The five incumbent members of the Nation's old Business Committee automatically became members of the new legislature, which CPN members created in a constitutional revision approved in a mid-August election.

Among those candidates are: an incumbent Oklahoma legislator, Rep. Paul Wesselhoft of Moore; a retired Oregon state legislator, Jacqueline Taylor; a prospective Texas state legislator, Bryan Walker of the Tyler area; and the executive director of the National Libertarian Party, Shane Cory of the Washington D.C. area.

Three of the candidates have been elected without opposition: Thom Finks of the northern California legislative district;



*Chairman John 'Rocky' Barrett moderates as Kansas legislative candidates, from left, Hurb Adams, Janet Grey, Alan Becker, Amy Herrick, and Theresa Adame prepare to make presentations to voters.*

Ron Goyer of the southern California district; and Lisa Kraft of Stillwater in District #11.

Rep. Wesselhoft is one of two candidates for District #9 in Oklahoma as Shawnee resident Kimberly Carol Self also filed. The winner of this CPN legislative seat will have to campaign for re-election almost immediately. To set up staggered terms for the legislators, some of the

initial terms are less than the normal four years. Self or Wesselhoft will serve only until a late June election for the full term.

There are four candidates for the District #10 seat in Oklahoma: James Blevins of Verden; Elva Campbell of Davis; Jason Nathaniel O'Neal of Stonewall, who is the Chickasaw Nation Chief of Police; and David Joe Barrett of Shawnee, a business owner and member of the CPN Grievance Committee until it was abolished by the constitutional revision.

CPN Chairman John 'Rocky' Barrett and Vice Chairman Linda Capps have begun an ambitious set of more than 20 "Meet-the-Candidate" forums across the United States. They hosted meetings in Albany, New York; Baltimore, Maryland; Raleigh, North Carolina; and Orlando, Florida on November 10 and 11. They hosted meetings in Rossville, Kansas and Chicago, Illinois on November 17 and 18.

Other meetings are scheduled in New  
*See ELECTIONS on page 16*



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**Legislative Candidate Ads** - Over the next 9-plus pages, you can view and compare legislative candidates' ads. All candidates have been given one free one-quarter-page ad in this edition of the *HowNiKan*. To assist in comparing candidates, they are grouped by legislative districts, with the candidates for each district arrayed in alphabetical order. These ads, along with candidates' resumes, audio interviews with candidates, and much more information, are posted at [www.CPNElectionCentral.org](http://www.CPNElectionCentral.org).

## Vote Norma Neely

A Veteran Educator  
Legislative District One

Norma's priorities include:

- \*Promoting & expanding services for tribal members
- \*Preserving our cultural heritage for our grandchildren and their grandchildren
- \*Ensuring fiscal responsibility
- \*Encouraging collaboration with other Potawatomi bands



Questions? E-mail Norma at [nnds@comcast.net](mailto:nnds@comcast.net) or call her at 660-665-6972

Norma's granddaughters: Cheyenne, Isabella, and Mikaeja

## Roy Slavin

I reside in Kansas City, Missouri. I'm a veteran, proud to be part of the CPN veterans organization and Color Guard. I owned and operated a TV business and retired after 28 years from TWA. At TWA, I was the Union Steward for 300 employees, served on the 6A4 Committee doing feasibility studies on farm-out work, and served on the Human Rights Committee. I served five years on the Walden Home Owners Assc. Board of Directors and for the past 15 years have been employed for U.S. Treasury, presently as a CIT Instructor. I would be proud to serve as your legislator for District 1.

Get more information at [www.royslavin.com](http://www.royslavin.com) or e-mail me at [rjslavin@sbc-global.net](mailto:rjslavin@sbc-global.net).

**ROY SLAVIN**

DISTRICT #1 LEGISLATOR



## William Pearce - District #1



I hope my qualifications and vision for the future of the Citizen Potawatomi Nation will help get your vote.

I am a descendant of the Burnett family. My grandfather, William Pearce, and grandmother, Carrie Wickens, met as students at the Haskell Institute in Lawrence, Kansas. My father went to school at Sacred Heart Academy in St. Louis, Oklahoma.

I was born in Ponca City, OK and lived for a time in Purcell, OK before my family moved to Buffalo, NY. I have kept in touch with CPN by attending regional meetings and Pow Wows over the years and have witnessed the amazing growth of our tribe. My daughter, Margaret Pearce, one of my six children, spent her summer as a volunteer at our nation's library in the single building the Potawatomis had at that time, 22 years ago. Many other family members, children and siblings have attended regional meetings and Pow Wows.

My background in education at the elementary, secondary and university levels in this country and in Japan I believe gives me the experience to help the continuing growth of CPN opportunities for all tribal members, young and old. With wider educational goals in mind, I built and operated two public television stations, in Plainview on Long Island and in Rochester, NY and added two NPR radio stations, an FM and an AM, in Rochester.

As President and General Manager of these organizations I have had many years experience lobbying local and federal government officials and politicians. Today, I am a Media Consultant to non-profit organizations, a primary client being the Seneca Indian site, Ganondagan, in Victor, NY.

I envision a day not too far away, when CPN incentives, such as scholarships, will assist our tribal sisters and brothers in greater participation not only in tribal matters but in commercial and political positions throughout our United States. With our new Constitution, Potawatomis and American Indians will play a greater role in our society. You are voting for seven generations to come. Please vote.

Megwetch,  
William Pearce

## Michael Smith Legislative District 1

I am descended from the Bertrand family and was raised in Oklahoma. Having lived on the White Earth Ojibwe reservation in Minnesota for 13 years, I know the value of visionary, honest tribal government which is concerned for the well-being of all the people.

I am making myself available for service to Legislative District #1 in honor of my grandfather and great-grandmother who handed on to me a rich legacy. My desire is to build a strong Citizen Potawatomi Nation for my grandchildren and generations to come.

In gratitude for having benefited greatly by membership in our tribal community, I would like to give something back in return to the Citizen Potawatomi Nation.

I currently serve as bishop of the Episcopal Diocese of North Dakota where I am involved in six Native communities on three reservations.

Thank you for your consideration of my candidacy.

Miigwech,  
Michael G. Smith





## Vote Jon Stephen Smith For Legislator District #1



**Forward Thinking Leadership  
Keeping the Fire Alive  
Business Development  
Educational Excellence  
Cultural Preservation**

**steve.smith@media-smith.com**

**Proud descendant of the Bertrand and Higbee families**

## Candace Walter

**Legislative District #1**



Bozho (hello),

Greater representation soon will be a reality. I wish to assist all tribal members living in District 1 - to assist you in fully participating in our Nation's government.

I've been a resident of the Northern woodlands all my life, where our tribe has its roots. The care of Mother Earth is a serious concern of mine.

I've worked for the past 35 years on the board of directors of several community organizations and am now assisting elders in understanding Medicare. Some of my accomplishments are raising three Potawatomi children - tribal members - and doing the design work and subcontracting in remodeling my home.

My bachelor's degree is in Computer Science. I've worked with computers in problem-solving jobs and have skills and experience in video-conferencing. I can make things easier for you to keep connected to our government. I would be available for calls, emails, and consultations to discuss your ideas and problems and work with our government to resolve them.

I'm looking forward to the chance to serve as a member of the CPN Legislature from District 1. I would be honored and proud to serve as an elected official of our great Nation. The only way to make positive changes in the tribal government is by being involved in the decision-making process. I hope you vote for me.

*Migwetch, Candace L. Walter*

## Ralph "Nishbonsak" Bergeron Bazhaw Legislative District #2



**Family:** Great Grandson of Watchekee, daughter of Chief Joseph and Monaska. Grandfather, Charles Bergeron, and Father, Robert Bergeron (Bazhaw), were on original tribal rolls of Citizen Band Potawatomi. Ralph and wife, Lois, have a son, Ron, and a daughter, Lana and five grandsons. They reside in Pleasant Garden, North Carolina.

**Education:** Graduate, Cement, Oklahoma High School; BSEE, Oklahoma State University; Master's certificate Project Management, George Washington University.

**Experience:** Retired after 31 years in telecommunications for the Bell System (engineering, sales and project management.) Currently instructor GTCC and high school basketball referee. Ralph shares his heritage with children and adults at schools, nursing homes and other organizations

### **Education - Experience - Heritage - Bridging the Generations**

Ralph is a man with a deep spiritual center who can bring people together using wisdom of the past to solve the problems of today and the foresight to plan for the future.

With the help of the Great Spirit, I offer myself in service to my people. I would appreciate your vote.

## Eva Marie Carney for Legislator, District #2

Proud member of the Citizen Potawatomi Nation & the Juneau Family

Loving wife & mother of two teenage CPN members



Active Virginia community member: former PTA president & ongoing school, food bank & legal services volunteer

Practicing lawyer for 20+ years: J.D., Stanford Law School 1983; B.A., Univ. of San Francisco 1980

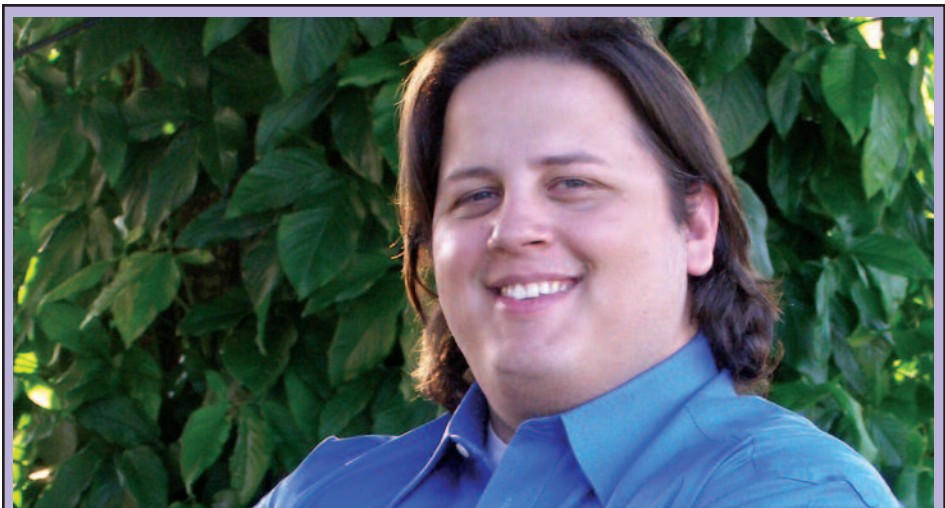
Familiar with general accounting & corporate governance issues - Partner in law firm with active securities practice

Work experience on Capitol Hill, with federal regulatory agencies, and as law clerk to judges in California & Washington, D.C.

*Integrity and Experience  
Committed to the Service of our Tribe*

For more information or to share your ideas, visit [www.evamariecarney.com](http://www.evamariecarney.com)





**ANTHONY COLE - DISTRICT #2**  
<http://www.anthonycollection.com>

I am a descendant of the Yott family, business owner and a former U.S. Marine running for legislative district #2. As your legislator I pledge to:

- Promote Potawatomi culture by involving more young people.
- Create quarterly meetings in district #2 that will increase tribal participation.
- Expand services and help members in need obtain aid.
- Increase funding for services by developing new technology based businesses.
- Use technology to reunite the Potawatomi family and provide support for geographically separated families.


**James Higbee**  
**Legislative Dist. #2**

My name is James Higbee. I am a candidate for the legislative position in Region 2, created under our new constitution. For the last several years, I have been the Regional Director for the Citizen Potawatomi Nation (CPN) in the Northwest Region and have enjoyed the opportunity to be involved with (CPN) business and operations. My wife and I have relocated to Mobile, Alabama to be closer to our disabled son. I look forward to the opportunity to serve the South Region.

The Higbee name is one of the original Citizen Potawatomi Nation (CPN) family names, and is displayed in the cultural center. My fifth great-grandfather was chief Toppinebee. My dad enrolled me in the Nation at a young age, and as long as I can remember, the Potawatomi name has been part of my life. My dad, Wendell, is 95 years young, is the senior elder in our extended family and one of the oldest Potawatomi members living.

I retired from the U.S. Army as a Lieutenant Colonel after 23 years of service, served as a Medical Unit Commander in Vietnam. I have a PhD in Microbiology and Immunology with a specialty in clinical diagnosis of infectious and exotic diseases both in research and patient care. My army career took me to many places including assignments in Louisiana, Washington D.C, two different locations in Maryland, and the opportunity to experience southern living. In the civilian community, I worked as an assistant professor at the University of Utah, a scientific director for a subsidiary of McDonnell Douglas, a consultant to several national companies including Kodak, Johnson & Johnson, Nikon, Smithkline/Beecham, Abbott Laboratories and Berhinger Mannheim and was the Director of 28 Laboratories for a HMO. My scientific and management career involved large staff and fiscal responsibilities. I am a people person with excellent communication skills.

The survival of our Nation depends on preserving our culture, especially the native language, maximizing our successful business endeavors, education, reaching out to our members with benefits and staying on the front side of the curve. CPN is a great Nation with great leadership! I am proud to be a Potawatomi and would be honored to serve Region 2 as Legislator.





**Shane Cory**  
Candidate for CPN Legislature  
**District 2**

Friends, we are entering an exciting time that will pave a path for our future.

I strongly feel it is the job of the new legislature to help develop the "ends" but leave the "means" up to those with the **experience** and track-record of doing what is **right** for our nation.

Simply put, if I earn your vote, I'll work to ensure that Chairman Barrett and those with the knowledge of running a tribal nation are free to do their good work. While they will have the oversight, support and counsel of the new legislature, they should not be burdened by politics or micro-management.

We're on the right path so **let's stay the course.**

For more info visit:  
[www.ShaneCory.com](http://www.ShaneCory.com)

Respectfully,  


**Traci Garcia**  
**Legislative Dist. #3**

My name is Traci Garcia (Ojindis Kwe). I reside in the DFW Metroplex area with my husband, Robert, and daughter, Cora. We are expecting our second child in December. I am a native Texan, was raised in the suburbs of Houston, and relocated to the DFW area to attend college. I am a proud descendent of the Bourassa family.

I earned my Bachelor's degree from the University of North Texas. I have broad experience in office administration, public relations, and assisting with real estate transactions. I am relying on all of my prior experience and talents to be of great value to you and our tribe.

This is such an exciting time to be a member of our tribe as we are moving to a Constitutional Government. This move will bring about equal representation to all districts. I am eager for the opportunity to represent and serve my fellow Texas Tribal Members in District 3 and ensure that our concerns and needs are elevated and understood. I want to become your full-time representative and focus my energy in representing my fellow Tribal Members. I will promise to serve you with honor and dignity and would appreciate your vote and support in the upcoming election for District #3.

**Vote for**  
**Traci Garcia - District #3**





## JOHNSON for Legislative District Representative

3

Citizen  
Potawatomi  
in Texas

Questions/Comments? opensky@sbcglobal.net Myron (Ron) Johnson

### Priorities

- Advancing Educational & Vocational Training Opportunities
- Expanding Social & Health Services
- Growing Business & Economic Network
- Improving & Enlarging Cultural Experiences

### Perspective

I am a long-time supporter of our CPN leadership and vision.

An active participant in CPN meetings and gatherings . . .

Community service, educational and leadership experience . . .

20+ years of human services, marketing/communications, and publishing experience; 10+ years electronic publishing.

### Purpose

I am proud to be a Citizen Potawatomi and excited about our future as a people. Our new governmental structure offers us great new possibilities. I want to be part of helping make them happen.

I am a loving, caring and capable husband, father, tribal member, small business owner, educator, and graduate journalism and education student.

Vote Myron (Ron) Johnson for District 3 Repres.

Express Yourself @ [www.openskyron.com/d3survey](http://www.openskyron.com/d3survey)

## Vote for Andrew Thomas Walters

Legislative District #3

Heritage, history, and family - the three most important aspects of Potawatomi culture. Without them we, as a Tribe, cannot continue to exist. Over the years, the Tribe, under our current leaders, has taken steps toward making the Tribe a viable, financially secure entity.

Now we must look at enjoining our people into the Potawatomi culture. Continuing education, bringing our culture to life, and showing our people the importance of being Potawatomi are the foundations of my campaign. Without this, we will be assimilated, we will die, and the memory of our proud heritage will be forgotten, relegated to the back pages of history. We must resurrect our culture, our language, and our pride.



We are the Citizen Potawatomi Nation!

## Brian Walker

Legislative District #3

I am a lifelong conservative, and an experienced public servant. I started working in government as a Messenger for the Texas Senate over ten years ago. Since then, I have served as the Assistant Sergeant at Arms of the Texas Senate, as an Associate on the Bush/Cheney 2000 campaign, as a Legislative Assistant to a Texas State Representative, and as an Assistant District Attorney in a rural county in Northeast Texas.

Currently, I am a partner in a general practice law firm, with my father and fellow Potawatomi member Scott Walker, and I serve as an Adjunct Professor of State and Federal Government at Panola College.

Throughout my career in public service, I have always been committed to the same principles of fiscal responsibility and social conservatism. As your elected District 3 Legislator, I will use my experience in government, and my conservative beliefs, to help promote a thriving future for the CPN while assuring that our tribal funds are used appropriately and efficiently.

If you have any questions for me, please feel free to email me at [brianwalker@hotmail.com](mailto:brianwalker@hotmail.com) or call me on my cell phone at (903) 263-8555.



## Robert Whistler

Legislative District #3

Age - 70; Married - 47 years;  
Two married daughters. College graduate - Business Administration

My family has historically been active in the tribe. My late aunt Philonese Williams was the Regional representative in Arizona until she became too ill to continue. Our family has a number of veterans listed in the new cultural facility and we have actively participated in providing items for the veterans' displays.

I offer district 3 tribal members over 35 years of business experience including budget creation, monitor, and control along with frontline customer service experience. In addition, I have experience in government as an elected city council official overseeing a \$52 million budget. I am known for being fair and honest and looking out for the majority without compromising the needs of the individual. My objective is to represent you and work to ensure our tribe continues to be successful, especially in this transitional period.



Vote for Robert Whistler

CPN Legislature, District #3



# Hurb Adams

## Legislative District #4

**HUBERT LEE ADAMS**, known as "Hurb". Age 69, born on a farm at Bronaugh, MO, lived with my parents in Kansas as a child. My wife and I now live in Rossville, Kansas at the Citizen Potawatomi Nation community with other members of our tribe. You are welcome to visit with us when you are in the area.

\* Graduated from Nevada High School, Nevada, MO, 1955

\* BS in Chemical Engineering, University of Missouri-Rolla, 1960

\* MBA, Wayne State University, Detroit, MI, 1971

\* BASF Corporation, 12 years, chemical engineer, operations supervisor for manufacturing. Founders Alliance Corporation, 11 years, consultant, vice-president.

\* City of Detroit, 14 years, instructor in mathematics and technology for adult students at General Motors, Chrysler, and other locations.

\* Officer in The United States Army, Corps of Engineers, 1.5 years.

\* After retirement, City of Dearborn, part-time building supervisor, 1 year.

While living in Michigan, I was active in studying the history of our tribe in the Great Lakes area, visiting the historic sites where records are kept, working on the genealogy of the Bourassa and Bertrand families, and researching the books in the Detroit Historical Library.

If elected, I believe that my expertise and past professional experiences will enable me to provide representation for all members of the Citizen Potawatomi Nation in Kansas with their share of the opportunities to participate in the programs offered by our tribe. I would make my best effort to represent each and every member in our district. I would listen to your ideas and concerns and follow through to make certain that our concerns are made known in Shawnee.



# Theresa Adame

## Legislative District #4

Dear Member,

I am Theresa (Martin) Adame of the Navarre lineage, one of many great granddaughters of Julia Burns. Married to my husband Dominic for 27 years, we have two daughters Rachel & Lisa.

I have managed all aspects of a medical facility for 20 years, reaching \$1 million in sales per fiscal year. I volunteer in my church and community and sit on charitable committees, such as the American Cancer Society Relay for Life.

I learned about being Native American from my Raymond Martin & Florence (Ketter) Martin and John Martin & Viola Mary (Burns) Martin - values like honesty, respect, a love for family and my Creator. I look forward to the Festival every year in Shawnee, reconnecting with family and making new friends. I have met several women

interested in expanding the native culture in Kansas. Meeting in Rossville, we are learning ribbonwork for shawls. I look forward to continuing and expanding.

I believe our scholarship program is the best thing we can do for our members. My daughter Rachel has completed her education and Lisa is a senior at Washburn University, thanks to the help from the Nation. I like to tell people I used to get a small check when I was little from the Nation. I remember we pooled our money for a tandem bike. It is long gone. My daughter's generation has the benefit of the scholarship their education will be with them for life.

I also have taken advantage of the housing grant. The land has always been important to our people and been able to own property gives us assists to hand down to the next generation.

Someone asked me why I wanted to run for representative. I hope my candidacy does honor to all my Navarre/Burns ancestors. - **MDWEJEWEN**



# Alan Becker

## Legislature District #4

Bozho,

My name is Alan Becker. My Potawatomi name is Nawnish Ashbekek. I am 47 years old. I am a member of the Anderson family. My mother is Julia Ray (Anderson) Smith. My grandmother is Wanda Laverne (Anderson) Smith. My great-grandfather was Herman Edward Anderson, Sr. My great-great-grandfather Charles David Anderson.

I worked for my father until I was 21. I was employed with Colorado Interstate Gas for 17 years. For the last nine years I have been part owner and manager of Lakin Lanes, a local bowling alley.

If elected, I will work for all tribal members equally. I will get all news out to Kansas tribal members in a speedy manner. My door will always be open to all. I would appreciate your vote.

Thanks, Alan



# Janet Grey

I am a member of the Bourassa/Ogee families of the Citizen Potawatomi Nation. I was born and raised in Topeka, Kansas. I attended Seaman High School, Professional Beauty College, and Kaw Area Vo Tech. I retired after 20 years from the Dept. Of Veterans Affairs.

I own my home in Northeast Topeka.. I am very family oriented, having three adult children, six grandchildren, and six step-grandchildren. I am interested in the education of our children. I care what is happening in the Citizen Potawatomi Nation and preserving the great heritage we can pass on to our children, grandchildren, and future generations.

I am honest, trustworthy, and professional. I will work hard as your representative to bring your concerns to the CPN. I have many years of knowledge in Federal Civilian Payroll and Personnel laws and regulations, also in Federal and State Tax law, understanding legal documents, research, and managing personnel.

I would appreciate your vote for the opportunity to serve you as the First Representative of the Citizen Potawatomi Nation from Kansas.

Vote for

## Janet Grey

Legislative Representative, District #4





# Amy Rose Herrick

CPN Legislature - DISTRICT 4 - KANSAS



It is my desire to serve our Nation by continuing a tradition of excellence in the financial stewardship of all Citizen Potawatomi Nation resources for the benefit of current and future generations of CPN members.

I ask for your vote for District #4 in Kansas. The CPN Public Information Department has my resume for your viewing.

# Amy Rose Herrick

# Edwin Burns - Legislative Dist. #5



My name is Edwin M. Burns; my grandmother was Julie Narvarre. I was born in La Junta, Colorado, the youngest of 12 children. My father was a farmer, and he taught his children about honesty, pride, hard work, and survival. When I was 10, my father had a stroke and died while we were working in the field together.

My mother encouraged me to stay in school and made sure I was clean and healthy. When I was younger, we lived on the Indian Reservation, in Mayetta, Kansas.

I knew what it was to be poor, but I was determined, even as a child, to make things better for my family, my people, and myself. At 17, I joined the Army to help my country, my mother, and myself. I served in the Fifth Armored Division then went to the U.S. Army Engineer Training Center. It was my training in engineering which benefited me greatly throughout the rest of my life.

I have been truly blessed to have been loved by two wonderful women in my life. also blessed that her two sons knew and respected me for years before I ever met their mother. Thanks to our combined family, I have 10 grandchildren and one great-grandchild.

I was honored, when given my Indian name by chairman John Barrett. He explained the meaning of the name as the elder, or wise one, of the tribe, to whom the young braves came for advice and encouragement, and the leader of his family. My Potawatomi name, Mesho, means Grandfather.

My education and work background came from many sources - public schools, the Army, and its schools of engineering. I worked for CF&I Steel Co., and then went to work for the City of La Junta's Electric Dept. I completed lineman school, and began working in construction of high lines. I became what the Indians called, a "Wood Walker."

I started working for the Electric Power Co. in 1965. I was the only American Indian there, but I refused to be passed over for promotions. I became a line foreman, then general foreman. I also served as Superintendent of Centel Electric Co. in Rocky Ford, Colorado for 10 years, retiring from there in 2000.

I look forward to meeting many of you while serving as your Legislative Representative in District 5. I truly feel that since the new constitution has passed, it will give us more representation to be able to hear and deal with the needs of our people. I would appreciate your vote.

*Thank you & May God Bless You*

# STEWARDSHIP COMMUNITY & VISION



Vote for  
**Mickki Langston**  
District #5  
(CO, AZ, UT, NM, w-TX)

# Reinventing Tribal Community for a Modern Age

Highlights of Current and Former Activities:

- Founder and Executive Director of Mile High Business Alliance
- Program Manager, Colorado State Patrol Family Foundation
- Commissioner for Lakewood's Commission for an Inclusive Community
- Founder of Internet software company, The Geek Gene, LLC
- Youth Mentor, Colorado Youth at Risk
- Bus Driver, Lunch Lady, Property Manager, Bookkeeper, and more...
- Gardener, Traveler, Action Flick Fan

Learn more at [www.mickki.com](http://www.mickki.com)

# Gene Lambert

District #5

I am a direct descendant of Pierre Navarre. My father was Charles Lambert, and my grandmother is Cora Beth Scully.



I have served the Citizen Potawatomi Nation as a Regional Director for the past 9 years. I am a certified hotel administrator and a certified community college instructor. In 1997, the Living Bible Church ordained me a minister.

I have been involved in many community programs, including one for foster care for children and one in which I set up a program to transition women from prison to the workforce. I have served as a CETA trainer.

I have significant political experience, including my own campaign for the Arizona state senate.

I would ask all the district #5 voters to put their energy into seeking election of the candidate they support. Then, please, support the winner and the new legislature. Ultimately, this is about the success and growth of the Nation, not individuals or specific families.

Vote for **Gene Lambert** - District #5



## Shanna K. Larsen, CPA

for Representative District #5  
Please vote by February 2

I am a proud member of the Citizen Potawatomi Nation and feel honored to have the opportunity to potentially serve our members. I was born and raised in Oklahoma and learned my strong sense of heritage from my grandmother, Ara Mae O'Connor, formerly O'Bright.

I have worked hard to build a successful career in accounting and finance, information technology, and business management in the last two decades. As a Legislator I think my experience and strong work ethic would benefit our Nation as well as sharing my in-depth knowledge of other strong and successful businesses to help CPN continue to flourish.



*Please cast your vote for Shanna Larsen - District # 5.* And my congratulations to my sister, Lisa Kraft, upon her unopposed election as District #11 representative.

Sincerely,

*Shanna with her husband David, her son Samuel, and daughter Sydney*



## Thom Finks

Bozho Nikan

I am Thom Finks and having run unopposed as your District #7 Representative, I am honored and excited to continue to serve you in this new position. For the past eight years, I have served the CPN and my fellow tribal members as Regional Director for northern California and Nevada. I am a member of both the Bertrand and Higbee families.

The new constitution has been approved and we are ready to move forward into a new form of government that involves us all. Therefore, I am asking for your continued support, tribal awareness, and involvement.

And, thank you for having joined my wife Alex, Chairman John (Rocky) Barrett, Vice Chairman Linda Capps, and me at the "Meet the Candidate" event on December 8 in Sacramento. I look forward to greeting you again soon.

Megwetch,  
Thom Finks



## Ron Goyer

Legislator, District #6

Bozho,

I am extremely proud to have this opportunity to serve the people of the Citizen Potawatomi Nation. As part of the first legislative body, I will work hard and dedicate my time and efforts in a way that best serves the members of our region. I am very pleased to

have had the opportunity to visit with tribal members at the "Meet the Candidate" Meeting on December 8, 2007 in Ontario, California.

Bama pi nikan!



## William Edward Anderson

Legislative District #8

I am William Edward Anderson. I am 69 years old. I lived in Oklahoma until I was 13 years old, then my family moved to western Kansas.

I joined the U.S.A.F. in 1958 at 19 years of age and served for 20 years. I worked on reciprocating engines as a mechanic and later as a flight engineer on EC-121 early warning and, later on, C-141 cargo aircraft.

After retiring in 1978, I worked for Boeing aircraft company for 15 years. Following retirement from Boeing, I moved to Whitefish, Montana. While in the military I married and we had five children, three boys and two girls. The girls still live in the Seattle area with their families. My oldest son lives in Georgia with his family. The other two boys live in Montana, only the youngest has a family here. We have 16 grandchildren.

I have always been interested in tribal government and have gone to the Pow-Wows and Family Festival since 1988. My Potawatomi name is Nahmankwek (Lead Cloud)

Migwech - Bama pi mine





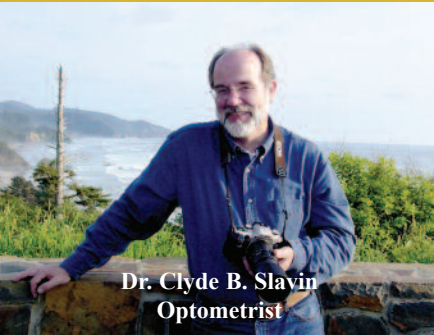
# Dr. Clyde B. Slavin

## District 8

Alaska, Washington, Oregon, Idaho, Montana, Wyoming, North Dakota, South Dakota, Nebraska

## Goal: Peace

Home and work have been in Vancouver, Washington for the past 29 years



Dr. Clyde B. Slavin  
Optometrist

### What I seek as a Candidate:

**PEACE: With our bodies**  
Health Education/access to healthcare resources/good health

**PEACE: In our minds**  
Confidence in our future. Personal, Family, and tribal resources which we will be able to depend upon for generations. Education/Business skills/Parenting Skills

**PEACE: With our neighbors**  
Workable relationships between individuals, agencies, and governments

E-mail: ClydeSlavin@GMail.com - Home 360-574-5658 - Work 360-885-9800  
I am observant, Patient, and concerned. I can help.

# Kimberly Carol Self

## CPN Legislative District #9

Hi,

My name is Kimberly Self and I am running for Legislator, the District #9 seat.

I am from the "Vieux" family.

My decision to run is a basic one. I care about the future of the Potawatomi Tribe and want to see the tribe keep moving in a positive direction that is beneficial to the tribal members.

I would appreciate your support and vote on February 2, 2008.

Vote

# Kimberly Carol Self

District #9



# Jacqueline Taylor

## CPN Legislative District #8

As we begin our new form of tribal government, my experience in public and private employment and as a volunteer may be useful to CPN District #8.

I have no personal agenda. I believe civility goes a long way in resolving issues, and my concern would be especially for the impact of our decisions on future generations.

I would appreciate your vote and will strive to be worthy of it.



Jacqueline (Self) Taylor

Vote for

# Jacqueline Taylor

# Elect Paul Wesselhöft

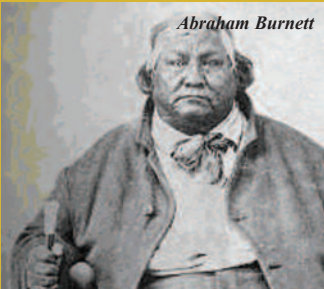
## CPN Legislative District #9

Paul served as a Sergeant during the Vietnam era and is a retired U.S. Army (Airborne-Ranger) Chaplain. Major Wesselhöft is a Veteran of the First Persian Gulf War (Desert Shield, Desert Storm) serving in the frontline offensive for the successful liberation of Kuwait from Iraq.

Paul Wesselhöft, M.A., M.Div., is serving our state as a State Representative, Oklahoma House of Representatives, District 54: Moore and South Oklahoma City. He organized, and is a founding member of the 18 member Native American Caucus for the Oklahoma House of Representatives.

Representative Wesselhöft serves the State Legislature as Vice-Chairman of the Joint (House/Senate) Committee on State-Tribal Relations and serves the National Congress of American Indians on its national committees for Education and Economic Development.

Paul, a fifth-generation Oklahoman, is married 31 years to Judy; they have two children: Justin & Holly. He is a natural leader in the lineage of his great-great-great grandfather, Chief Abraham Burnett. Paul is an experienced leader in our state and nation. With your vote, he promises to serve our tribe with distinction as a legislative leader for the Potawatomi Nation.



Abraham Burnett

*"I am asking for your support, prayers and vote; and I thank you in advance." - Paul Wesselhöft*





## A VOTE FOR DAVID BARRETT

Citizen Potawatomi Nation  
Oklahoma Legislative District 10  
is a vote for:

**Experience - Hard Work  
Strong Leadership - Honesty**



### Qualifications:

- \*On Board of Directors for the Nation's Bank since 2002
- \*Former Grievance Committee member for the last two terms
- \*Former Financial Controller for major Oklahoma corporations
- \*35 years of managerial skills in the work place
- \*Received MBA in Business Administration from Okla. City Univ.
- \*Received BBA in Accounting from Oklahoma University
- \*Served in the US Navy during the Vietnam Era
- \*Married 36 years to Connie Fry Barrett, daughter, Allison; son Chad and his Wife, Kristi Slavin Barrett; and grandson, Drake
- \*Lived in the Nation's Territory and from the Bourassa family
- \*Entrepreneur

While serving the Nation in different capacities during my tenure, I have been able to study our policies, procedures, and Constitution and have been able to "step to the plate" to serve the nation in a fair and objective manner.

I would appreciate your support to continue a firm foundation for our first Legislative body for our Nation's future.

## DAVID BARRETT

OKLAHOMA LEGISLATIVE DISTRICT 10

# James Blevins

Legislative District #10

My name is James Blevins. I am 54 years old and have always lived in Verden, located just outside Anadarko, Oklahoma. Anadarko is recognized as the Indian Capital of the World. I am a politically active self-employed businessman. I served one five-year term on the local school board and have spent much time at the state capital lobbying school-related issues, as well as other issues of importance to my business and myself.

The Potawatomi are not well thought-of by the Plains tribes, among whom I live, but I have always carried the Potawatomi flag full-staff and never backed down from defense of my people. Rest assured, I would show the same resolve in representing my people at the tribal level. I am educated, intelligent, and somewhat eloquent of speech (since my college major was communications).

I am conservative of thought and pledge representation of yours as well. Your support will be appreciated and not wasted as you vote for *James Blevins for District 10 Representative*.

Sincerely,

James Blevins AKA Neesh Nemoshek (Potawatomi)



# Elva Campbell

Legislative District #10

I am a descendant of the Vieux Family and it is a great honor to have the opportunity to run for the CPN Legislature and if elected, be able to represent and convey the voice of all CPN members into the laws that will be written by the newly extended Legislative Branch of the CPN.

**Employment:** For the past 6 years I have held the position of Business Representative and Business Manager for the International Union of Operating Engineers, Local 351. Prior to becoming the Business Representative, I was employed by Wynnewood Refining Company for approximately 13 years. Before being employed at the Refinery in Wynnewood, Oklahoma, I was enlisted in the United States Marine Corps and stationed at Camp Pendleton, California.

**Education:** I am currently a law student at Oklahoma City University, School of Law where I am pursuing a Law Degree. I earned a Bachelor Degree from East Central University and an Associate Degree from Murray State College.

**Community Service:** I am currently the Vice President of the Davis Public Schools, Board of Education in Davis, Oklahoma. I also serve as a Board member on the Southern Oklahoma Workforce Investment Board, and I am an alumnus of Leadership Murray County Class One.

The CPN leadership must protect and maintain our Heritage while overcoming the future challenges that will affect our tribe and I consider it a privilege to have the opportunity to become a CPN Legislature and playing a fundamental role in continuing the prosperity of the CPN by building on the strong foundation built by our past and current elders.

*Let your voice be heard, I would appreciate your vote for Legislative District #10.*



# Jason O'Neal

Legislative District #10

HONOR - COURAGE - COMMITMENT

The protection and welfare of our families and communities are the chief responsibility of all governments. With more than thirteen years of military, federal and tribal law enforcement experience, I have made public service my life profession.

As a husband and father of four, I understand our families' needs including healthcare, education, and employment.

Currently serving as the Chief of Police for the Chickasaw Nation, I am a challenge-driven professional with a strong leadership background. I excel in creating consensus among divergent groups. I am a creative and resourceful professional with the ability to get quick results and demonstrate early success.

As a natural and persuasive communicator I will strive to energize and inspire individuals to work toward achieving the common goal of bettering the Citizen Potawatomi Nation. Together we will ensure a promising future and I look forward to serving you.

Jason O'Neal



## Jason O'Neal

Legislative District #10



# Lisa Kraft

Legislative District #11

I am tremendously excited and optimistic about serving our Nation as an elected representative. Thank you for this opportunity.

As your District #11 representative, I will work tirelessly to ensure that we legislators seek out and heed CPN members' opinions and advice on the full range of issues we will decide. This is a watershed moment in our Nation's history. I urge all members to become even more involved. Please, offer your opinions and vote every time you have the opportunity.

I do ask one thing of voters in District #5: take a close look at all three legislative candidates' qualifications and experience and give special consideration to casting a vote for my sister, Shanna Larsen.

Always thinking Potawatomi,  
Lisa Kraft



# Potawatomi Language

With cold weather here and a blanket of leaves (or snow) covering the earth, we finally get to tell stories. Kekyllak (Elders) up north generally wait until winter time to tell stories and legends. I recently got a chance to hear a story while I was up in Wisconsin. I will share it with you now.

This story was told by Billy Daniels in Milwaukee, Wisconsin in November. It's called "How the bear lost its tail."

Way back when, bears used to have long tails, much like dogs. One day the bear was out on a frozen lake and he saw a rabbit with some fish. The bear was very hungry, and he asked the rabbit for his fish.

The rabbit said that he had a family at home and couldn't spare him any fish. (But, really, the rabbit was preparing to play a joke on the bear). He told the bear, "I know how you can catch some fish. Just put your long tail down in the water under the ice and wait for something to bite it."

So, the bear did as he had been told,

and waited. Before long, the bear's tail was hurting badly, and he asked the rabbit what he should do. The rabbit told him, "Just keep it in there. Don't pull up or you'll scare the fish."

So, the bear again did as he had been instructed, and waited longer. The rabbit soon left, and the bear waited even longer.

Finally, the bear's tail stopped hurting, but he kept waiting, thinking about how delicious his fish would be as he ate it.

Some time later, the bear became so frustrated he couldn't wait any longer and stood up...leaving his tail in the water.

Billy Daniels said that this is an old story that was passed down to his father from another elder and had been told for as long as he can remember.

Our people have more interesting stories, passed down through oral tradition. I've heard this same story told in other ways depending on the location of the reservation on which it is told. Please pass this story on to your families.

Migwech

Michael Dykstra

## Oklahoma "Meet-the-Candidate" Events

These are the dates and locations for the "Meet-the-Candidates" events in Oklahoma. The Nation will serve pizza at each meeting.

Saturday, December 29, 2007 - 10:00 a.m. - Stillwater  
Stillwater Chamber of Commerce, 409 South Main Street

Saturday, December 29, 2007 - 4:00 p.m. - Tulsa  
St. Gregory's University, 5801 E. 41st Street, Room 1007

Sunday, December 30, 2007 - 2:00 p.m. - Shawnee  
CPN's North Reunion Hall

Wednesday, January 2, 2008 - 6:00 p.m. - Lawton  
First National Bank & Trust, 6702 N.W. Quanah Parker Trailway

Thursday, January 3, 2008 - 6:00 p.m. - Chickasha  
826 W. Oregon Avenue, Chickasha

Friday, January 4, 2008 - 6:00 p.m. - Ardmore  
Ardmore Convention Center, 2401 North Rockford Road

Monday, January 7, 2008 - 6:00 p.m. - McAlester  
Southeast Expo Center, 4500 West Highway 270

Please RSVP to Cathie Hanson at 405-275-3121 or 800-880-9880 or, by e-mail, at [CHanson@Potawatomi.org](mailto:CHanson@Potawatomi.org).

## FireLake Designs



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## HOWNIKAN

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All correspondence should be directed to *HowNiKan*, 1601 Gordon Cooper Drive, Shawnee, OK 74801. Address changes should be sent to Potawatomi Tribal Rolls, 1899 S. Gordon Cooper Drive, Shawnee, OK 74801.

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# Potawatomi Cornerstone: The Removals, Part Two, Kansas and the Road South

by Charles Clark, Director, Tribal Rolls

## Indian Reservations in Kansas 1846

Some historians claim that the tribes removed from the Ohio Valley and Great Lakes region received better land in Kansas than the land they had ceded to the federal government. Land set aside in Kansas for the removed Indians was part of the Kansa and Osage Nations. It had been ceded by treaty in 1825.

Other Nations indigenous to the area included the Pawnee, Cheyenne, Arapaho, Kiowa, and Comanche. They followed suit in later treaties. However, the Nations were not better off because the “higher quality land” they were removed to was neither a substitute nor just compensation for being relieved from their ancestral homes, a compromised agreed to by force.

In 1846, nineteen Tribes inhabited the eastern half of Kansas (see map). The largest landholders, evidently, were the Osage and Kansa. The original Potawatomi Reserve was 30 square miles.

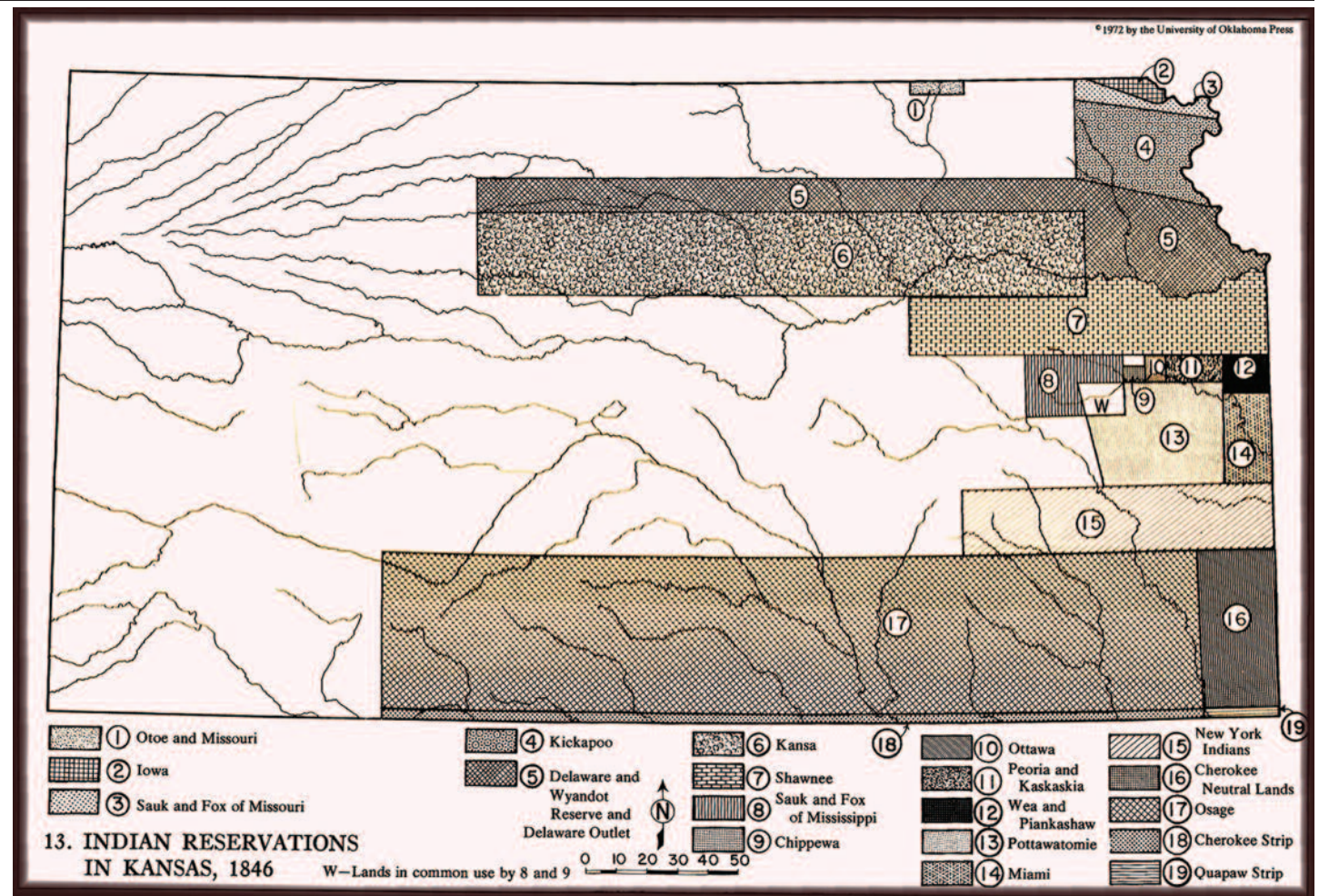
The reserves were intended to be permanent. However, this design lasted but one generation. White intrusion, the railroads, and other economic and political factors once again forced a new generation, beginning in the 1870s, to pull up stakes. This time, they moved south, into Indian Country, present-day Oklahoma.

Even those Nations indigenous to the area were forced to move. When all was said-and-done, three reservations remained, the Iowa/Sauk and Fox, Kickapoo, and Prairie Potawatomi Reserve, itself downsized to 11 square miles.

## The Road South

The proposal to grant allotments in Kansas came about in 1838, when Isaac McCoy suggested the system of sectionizing be applied. He felt it would be a major turning point in Indian affairs. However, Washington showed no interest in the suggestion, and the proposal was shelved.

Nevertheless, by the time the reserves were established, much had changed. There were two major routes to the West, the Oregon Trail and the Santa Fe Trail. The Oregon Trail crossed through the Potawatomi reserve. The rapidly growing western and northwestern states needed an open door to the coast, and the best route for a proposed transcontinental railroad fell along the paths of these trails.



It can be said that the railroad was the primary facilitator for what was inevitable. Conversely, the region was no longer being seen as a wasteland, but, rather, an area abundant with natural resources and one with a potential for white settlement.

The westward movement was already in play. Squatters, land brokers, and special interest groups pursued their own course of action, exploiting every opportunity for economic gain within the region. Even though the federal statute of 1807 prohibited white encroachment on unassigned lands, this did not stop opportunists from taking advantage of the Trade and Intercourse Act of 1834 that vaguely defined Indian Country.

The political landscape was changing as well. Politicians debated the use of public land as a means to produce revenue, an essential prerequisite for a sound economy and a strong democracy. Allotment advocates considered the Indian way of life, with regard to communalistic use of land, both backward and unproductive. They believed private ownership of land was

essential if civilization was to progress. Allotment was also seen as a means to break the cohesiveness of tribes; the Indians would be forced to adapt to habits and practices leading to assimilation into white culture.

The means for pushing this course did not coalesce into a national policy until March 3, 1853, when an act of Congress paved the way to breaking up Indian land to speed up westward expansion. The act provided a means to systematically remove all Indian Tribes from all areas west of the Mississippi River that were deemed adaptable to White settlement, without regard to treaty obligations.

The majority of the Prairie Potawatomis were opposed to the idea. However, there were many from the Mission Band who accepted it. The Treaty of 1861 solidified the government's agenda as well as advancing the railroad's effort to complete its track route through the reservation. It stipulated that the Commissioner of Indian Affairs would have the entire reservation surveyed to determine which sections

would be portioned off for individual allotments.

However, some can argue that the treaty was “hastily” concocted, as its main purpose was to further the advance of the railway interests, and it did not even consider effects of the onslaught of white settlement. There were many Potawatomis who were very industrious and made a good living, but there were those who fell on hard times, too. It was becoming apparent that many, if not most, would fail because of white exploitation and the government's laissez faire attitude toward the situation.

It is almost plausible today to see that the whole process was designed to fail. However, in Article 8 of the 1861 treaty, there was an “escape clause,” through which Potawatomis could sell their Kansas allotments back to the government and buy allotments, again set aside by the government, in the new Potawatomi Reserve in Indian Territory. One stipulation: if allottees agreed to a new treaty, they were required to become U.S. citizens. This led

See POTAWATOMI CORNERSTONE on page 16





### *The Collections Corner* *By Stacy S. Pero*

#### **Porcupine Quill Basket on Display at the CHC**

The intention of the Collections Corner is to inform tribal members and the public of collections that are on display here at the Cultural Heritage Center.



One particular item that we have on display here at the CHC is a porcupine quill basket. This rare art form always grabs the attention of the visitor's when touring the museum. Simply because of it's natural beauty and because of the fact that all of the items used to make this basket came from nature, including the plant dyes used to color the quills to make the bear and plant images.

The basket is 12 inches in diameter and is made up of Porcupine Quills, Sweetgrass, which lines the top and bottom edges of the basket, and Birch bark, which makes up the cover and base of the basket. The basket was commissioned in 2001 by a member of the 3 Fires Band of Indians from the Wikimikong Reserve in Mantoulin Island, Canada.

Traditionally, the art form of quilling is probably the oldest form of embroidery among the Eastern Woodlands and Great Plains Indians. Porcupine quills were used for adornment prior to the introduction of glass beads by the Europeans in the mid-1800's. Subsequently, beads which became more easily attainable through trade, later took the place of these quills. In the Eastern Woodlands, porcupine quills were used to decorate anything from clothing and everyday accessories to birch bark containers that were used to store foodstuffs in. Quills were dyed in various plant dyes to get certain colors, thus enhancing the effect and art form of the quillwork.

Today, quillwork is considered a 'lost art' due to the fact that artists now use beads to adorn their garments and other accessories. However, this basket gives us an

indication that there are Natives out there still carrying on this rare, but not yet 'lost' tradition.

### *Archival Notebook* *R. Blake Norton, Archivist*

I would like to thank all of the tribal members who have graciously donated and or loaned materials to the Cultural Heritage Center's archival collection. Materials acquired at the 2007 Family Reunion Festival allowed 23 new collections to be added to the permanent holdings. It is with this material that we can teach our young ones and future generations the historical and cultural aspects of the Nation.

We must continue collecting and preserving this material, in order to provide visitors and scholars of the tribe an in-depth and accurate look at Potawatomi life. Ninety percent of the archival collection is made up of materials either donated or loaned to the Cultural Heritage Center. With the Citizen Potawatomi Nation so deeply rooted in family ties, genealogical research is at the forefront of activities provided at the CHC. With this in mind, I encourage all tribal members, young and old, to donate and/or loan any historical, genealogical and cultural material. To donate and/or loan any material, contact Blake Norton, 405-878-5830 or [bnorton@potawatomi.org](mailto:bnorton@potawatomi.org).

### *Tribal Heritage Project*

The Tribal Heritage Project team recently received an award from the Institute of Museum and Library Studies. This grant will allow us to research and develop a script for an upcoming documentary exploring the forced removal of the Potawatomi to Kansas. There will be an emphasis placed on the history of the tribe's migration from Kansas to Indian Territory. We will apply again in April of 2008 for funding for the production phase of the documentary.

Leslie Gee, writer/editor, recently completed a 30-minute video tribute to our WWII veterans. It premiered at the CPN Veterans Banquet this past Veterans Day. She received many compliments from the veterans in attendance and their families.

Grant Brittan recently completed editing a 50 minute video entitled, Search for the Seahorse Marine. This video was shot by CPN member Craig Anderson and his daughter, Brooke Desrochers, LTJG, USN, after locating

his crashed B-25 on an island in the South Pacific. The video chronicles their search and subsequent find of the missing aircraft within the mountainous jungle on the island of Espiritu Santo.

There is a Tribal Heritage Project staff member available during normal CHC hours to interview CPN members. We are currently focusing on our CPN Elders and WWII Veterans. To schedule an appointment to be interviewed please contact Grant Brittan, Production Manager Tribal Heritage Project, 405-878-5830 or [gbrittan@potawatomi.org](mailto:gbrittan@potawatomi.org).

**For details regarding the  
Long Room Event Center  
contact Cindy Stewart at 405-878-5830  
[cstewart@potawatomi.org](mailto:cstewart@potawatomi.org)**

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[www.Potawatomi.org/culture](http://www.Potawatomi.org/culture)

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Photos by Cindy Stewart



*CPN member becomes 38th skipper in Bucs history*

## Russell named Pirates manager

By Jenifer Langosch/MLB.com



*CPN member John Russell dons a Pittsburgh Pirates uniform shirt at the news conference at which his hiring as Pirates manager was announced.*

**PITTSBURGH** -- Introduced on November 5 as the next manager of the Pirates, Citizen Potawatomi Nation member John Russell joked that the Peoria, Arizona grocery store, where he and his wife, Jamie, stood the previous Friday when he received a call from Pittsburgh Pirates general manager Neal Huntington offering him the job, will never be the same. "We just got excited," Russell explained. "Some people turned their heads. My wife was a little vocal screaming, and I was pacing."

The grocery store may never be the same, and neither will Russell. Ultimately, he hopes, neither will the culture and the disappointing results that have been hallmarks of the Pirates for so long.

Speaking to reporters at PNC Park, Russell, 46, used the words accountability, discipline, pride, and passion. Those are adjectives he believes will be attached to the club moving forward. They are words Huntington believes already describe the man he brought in to replace Jim Tracy.

"It's being a tireless instructor, being a tireless communicator," Huntington said, expounding on his expectations for Russell. "It's instilling pride back and expecting it to be done the right way. It's holding the staff accountable and the players accountable."

*The new Pirates manager is the son of Delores Russell of Camargo, Oklahoma. His great-grandfather was Arthur G. Higbee and his grandfather was Verl P. Higbee. His siblings are David Michael (Mike) Russell of Dallas, Texas and Dr. D'Anne Stephens of Hurst, Texas.*

Throughout much of Huntington's month-long search process, speculation

strongly suggested that he would look to name someone to the managerial post with whom he had a previous professional tie. Though Russell didn't fit that criterion, Huntington said that he was indeed on his initial list of candidates. As the process lengthened throughout October, Huntington became more convinced that Russell's vision better aligned with his own.

"I've never worked with John before and I've never had a relationship with John before, but because of how he has managed before, I wanted to do more research on [him]," Huntington said. "It wasn't a guy I had a pre-existing relationship with, but it's a guy who I had a pre-existing respect for."

While the hire was ultimately a decision made by Huntington, Pirates president Frank Coonelly used his network around baseball to also assist in the process of gathering information on potential candidates. What he saw in Russell confirmed Huntington's initial assessment and convinced Coonelly that Russell is the one needed to turn the organizations' on-field results around. "I think it became more evident to me that we needed to get someone here that had previous managerial experience," Coonelly said. "It wasn't necessarily someone who has done it at the Major League level, but has actually managed a club and written out a lineup card."

Not only has Russell done so for many years, but he has also done so in numerous different capacities. He has managed from rookie ball up to Triple-A, as well as in both the Arizona Fall League and in Venezuela.

## Introducing "Taking Care of Business" and "Personal Money Matters"

Bozho! Welcome to the Citizen Potawatomi Community Development Corporation's (CPCDC) financial column. From this issue forward, the CPCDC will maintain a static presence in the *HowNiKan* to provide you, members of the Citizen Potawatomi Nation, insight on how to enhance your financial future.

You may be asking yourself, "What is the CPCDC?" Founded in 2003, the Citizen Potawatomi Community Development Corporation is a specialized financial institution that serves Native American interests in innovative ways as an alternative to traditional financial institutions often bridging the gap from non-bankable to bankable. In addition to providing a wide array of financial products and services, the CPCDC provides services that help ensure that credit is used effectively, such as technical assistance to small businesses, financial education and credit counseling to consumers. In essence, the program seeks to make an economic impact in Indian Country by providing financial education, access to capital, opportunities for job growth, and establishing personal wealth.

"[The CPCDC is] an alternative to traditional financial institutions - often bridging the gap from non-bankable to bankable."

What can you the reader expect from the CPCDC's financial column? In each issue of the *HowNiKan*, the CPCDC will provide thought provoking commentary, applicable real-life principles, and information on upcoming seminars and workshops. The CPCDC will attempt to help with issues of personal finance, aspiring entrepreneurs and established small businesses.

***Personal Money Matters - maintaining a personal budget through the holidays***

Unfortunately, in the U.S. the holidays seem to be as much about gluttony as their original intention. I, myself am guilty of paying tribute to the elastic waistband. Oh, how the prideful stumble. Beaming on the fact that I had not overloaded my plate like most every year before on Thanksgiving Day, I quickly succumbed to the call of the dessert table where I quickly made up ground to be happily miserable. So what does this have to do with finance? For many, the same philosophy has seeped into their personal spend-



ing this time of year as well. But unlike overeating, overspending can't be relieved with two anti-acids and a good night's rest. Instead, overspending could take months if not years to repay.

"As a consumer, one constantly gets barraged with marketing schemes..."

The holidays are here - spend, spend, spend - right? As a consumer, one constantly gets barraged with marketing schemes to further blur the lines between need and want. We get whipped into a sort of spending frenzy. I call it being in "The Zone," and I've lived it first hand. I can remember being in a department store on an early-bird sale with nothing in my basket looking for bargains. I felt pressured to buy something...anything...surely there was an epic deal in the store just for me. Everyone else seemed to be rooting out their special find effortlessly. Sure enough, if you look for a bargain, you'll find a bargain - and so did I. Two years later, I still have some of those "bargains" still in the plastic.

***"...I made a tragic mistake that many people make - I didn't have a plan."***

An anonymous saying that holds great merit is, "Never consult your wants without first consulting your purse." Most of us have limited amounts of money we can afford to spend on the holidays. When I went to that early bird sale, I made a tragic mistake that many people make - I didn't have a plan. Without a plan, I found myself in "The Zone" trying to discern between need and want. Obviously, that's not an ideal situation. As a result, I frivolously spent money I could have saved or otherwise put to better use. By contrast, a better method would have been to specifically define what I needed and how much I could afford to spend before even venturing to the marketplace.

Which brings us to a great question, "How much can one afford to spend during the holidays?" Here lies the crux of

*See TAKING CARE... on page 16*



# Walking On

**Deborah Lynn (McBride) Schmidt**



Deborah Lynn (McBride) Schmidt, 47, of Mt. Airy, Maryland, lost her 10-month battle with colon cancer and passed away peacefully at home on Sunday, October 28, 2007.

Born September 25, 1960, in Oklahoma City, Debbie grew up in Wheat Ridge, Colorado and Moore, Oklahoma. A 1978 graduate of Moore High School, she received her Bachelor of Science in Business Administration with an emphasis in Accountancy at University of Northern Colorado in 1982 and her Master of Science in Accountancy with an emphasis in Taxation at the University of Nevada Las Vegas in 1991. A Certified Public Accountant in the states of Colorado and Maryland, Debbie was a member of the Maryland Association of Certified Public Accountants and an 18-year employee of EG&G Technical Services located in Gaithersburg, Maryland, serving most recently as Vice President of the Finance Division.

Debbie was a member of First Baptist Church of Green Valley and loved spending her free time with her husband of 26 years and two sons and was active in their many sports activities.

Debbie was preceded in death by all her grandparents and her mother, Patsy Ruth Brewer of Wheat Ridge. She is survived by her husband, Darwin; sons Alexander and Phillip of Mt. Airy, Maryland; father William McBride of Eufaula, Oklahoma; brother Kevin McBride of Checotah, Oklahoma; sister Adell Burge of Chula Vista, California; and a large extended family of nieces, nephews, aunts, uncles, and cousins, nearly all residing in Oklahoma.

Memorial services were held in Debbie's honor at Resthaven Funeral Home in Oklahoma City on November 3,

2007, and near her home at the First Baptist Church of Green Valley, Monrovia, Maryland on November 5, 2007, with interment of ashes at Moore City Cemetery next to her much-loved paternal grandmother, Mozelle (Cook) McBride, who was the granddaughter of Delia (Bourassa) Griffin. Debbie was very proud of her Citizen Potawatomi Nation heritage.

**Kevin Jerome O'Connor**



Shawnee resident Kevin Jerome O'Connor, 52, passed away Monday, October 15 at home after a lengthy battle with brain cancer. He was born October 13, 1955 in Shawnee, the son of Michael and Judith (Horbach) O'Connor.

He graduated from Shawnee High School in 1974 and then attended Seminole Junior College. Prior to his illness he worked for Central Plastics. He served two tours in the U.S. Navy.

Kevin was a member of St. Benedict's Catholic Church and a proud member of the Citizen Potawatomi Nation. He was a monk at the Franciscan Monastery in Washington, D.C.

He was preceded in death by his father, Michael O'Connor; one brother, Anthony O'Connor; and his paternal and maternal grandparents. Survivors include his mother, Judith O'Connor; four sisters, Susan K. Greene of Jacksonville, Florida, Laura Suellentop and husband, Frank, of Colwich, Kansas, Teresa Washburn of Shawnee, and Barbara O'Connor of Jacksonville, Florida; two brothers, John O'Connor of Oklahoma City and Ardis O'Connor and wife, Kate, of Paekakariki, New Zealand; seven nieces and seven nephews; and many other relatives.

Rosary was at 7 p.m. on October 18 at Walker Funeral Service Chapel in Shawnee. A funeral service was held on Friday, October 20 at St. Benedict's Catholic Church with Father Joe Arledge (Kevin's cousin) and Father Maurus Jaeb, O.S.B., officiating. Burial was at Calvary Cemetery.

In lieu of flowers, memorials should be made to St. Benedict's memorial fund.

**Laveta June McCraw**



Laveta June McCraw, 78, died Sunday, September 17, 2006, at a Shawnee-area hospital. Rosary was at 9:30 a.m. Tuesday, September 19, 2006 at St. Benedict Catholic Church, Shawnee. Mass followed at 10:00 a.m., under the direction of Walker Funeral Home. Father Maurus Jaeb, O.S.B., and Father Mathew Brown officiated. Burial was at Sacred Heart Cemetery, Konawa, Oklahoma.

Mrs. McCraw was born November 25, 1927 in Sacred Heart, Oklahoma, the daughter of Frank I. and Della Mae (Williams) Wano.

Laveta married Jack McCraw on September 22, 1946. She was a housewife and a homemaker and a member of St. Benedict Catholic Church, American Legion, Alter Ai Society at St. Benedict, the Citizen Potawatomi Nation, and the Citizen Potawatomi Pow Wow Club. She also worked civil service during World War II. Laveta enjoyed music, ceramics, painting and gardening.

Preceding her in death were her parents; three sisters, Ruth Wano, Virginia Tuck, and the Rev. Clara Bridges; and one brother, the Rev. Franklin Wano.

Survivors include her husband, Jack McCraw; two children, Robert McCraw and wife Jamie and Luanna "Lu" McCraw; three sisters, Geri Buck and husband Marvin, Shirley Stafford and husband Ed, and Susie Dunn; two brothers, Max Wano and wife Tosh and Bill Wano and wife Darline; and numerous nieces, nephews and other family members and friends.

**Chilson Hannibal Howell**



SGM Chilson Hannibal Howell, 75, of Lawton died on Sunday, April 8, 2007 at Mercy Hospital in Oklahoma City. Chilson was born in Shawnee, Oklahoma the on December 12, 1931, son of Corliss and Manila (Chilson) Howell.

He enlisted in the US Army on December 14, 1948 in Shawnee and retired on August 31, 1975 at Ft. Bliss, Texas as a Sergeant Major. He received the Army Occupation Medal (Japan), Korean Service Medal w/2 Bronze Stars, United Nations Service Medal, ROK Presidential Unit Citation Good Conduct Medal, Expert Rifle, Marksman Carbine, Letter of Commendation (December 11, 1962, September 6, 1963, September 20, 1963, November 18, 1963,) Good Conduct Medal w/4 Lps., Vietnam Service Medal, Vietnam Combat Medal, National Defense Service Medal w/Oak Leaf Cluster, BSM, Good Conduct Medal 5th Award, 50/ A Bars, Republic of Korea Presidential Unit Commendation, United Defense Service Medal W/Oak Leaf Cluster, Good Conduct Medal 7th Award, Korean Service Medal, AOM (Japan), BSM, Gallantry Cross W/Palm, Vietnam Service Medal, Republic of Vietnam Commendation

*See WALKING ON on page 16*



**Taking Care... con't from page 14**

need and want. It's very simple, and it's also very difficult because it requires the discipline to deny ourselves wants. Simply put, what you can afford to spend on the holidays is one of two amounts - money that you have saved throughout the year reserved for this occasion and/or the difference of what you earn from now until the end of the year and your expenses until the end of the year (i.e. mortgage, loan payments, credit card payments, utilities, food, etc.).

If you haven't set money back or have too much month at the end of the money, consider some of the following options. A part-time job through the holidays is a great way to generate extra cash. House-sitting, in-home childcare, doing handy-man chores or part-time jobs at retail stores are great ways to prevent going into debt. (Make sure to consider the expense of additional commuting, eating out, and childcare as those expenses could negate or greatly reduce any extra revenues generated.) If you have no time to spare, consider selling some of your stuff that's lying around the house. One man's junk is another man's treasure.

**"Don't go into debt."**

No matter what, commit to yourself that going into debt is not an option. Don't go into debt. If you don't have enough to pay for it now, what makes you think you're going to have enough to pay for it later? And don't talk yourself into gladly paying a tax return of tomorrow for a holiday season today. They called that character "Wimpy" for a reason! If you don't have enough this year let that be motivation to start saving now for next year.

With household budgets being stretched further and further by rising energy and food costs, discretionary income continues to dwindle. Don't let yourself be seduced by the holiday spending frenzy, resulting in a glut of debt that could erode your capacity in the upcoming months. Quoting Benjamin Franklin, "An ounce of prevention is worth a pound of cure."

Discernment between needs and wants combined with careful budgeting of what you can afford to spend this holiday season will leave you with one less resolution on New Year's Eve besides diet and exercise!!!

**Elections, con't. from page 1**

Mexico, Arizona, Colorado, northern and southern California, Washington state, Houston and Dallas, Texas, and Oklahoma. The seven meetings across Oklahoma will be held in Ardmore, Chickasha, Lawton, McAlester, Shawnee, Stillwater, and Tulsa.

Within the next few weeks, the CPN Election Committee will begin mailing absentee ballots to tribal members who are eligible to vote and who request them. A walk-in voting opportunity is scheduled for 7 a.m. until 2 p.m. on Saturday, February 2, 2008 at the Nation's tribal courtroom at 1601 S. Gordon Cooper Drive in Shawnee. Absentee ballots must arrive in the election committee's Tecumseh post office box by 10 a.m. on that day to be counted.

The Citizen Potawatomi Nation changed its basic form of government to devolve more decision-making power to members across the United States. Of the tribe's more than 27,000 members, just 10,000 live in Oklahoma. Each of the eight legislators from Oklahoma will represent and be elected by all of the tribe's Oklahoma membership. Those from outside the state will represent and be elected by the members who reside in their district.

**FireLake Golf Course**  
**Challenging: Water on 15 holes**  
**Scenic: "The fairways are tight and lined with pecan trees, native grasses, and lots of water." -**  
**Course Director**  
**Chris Chesser**  
**1901 S. Gordon Cooper Drive**  
**Shawnee, OK 74801**

**Walking On, con't. from page 15**

Medal, and Expert Badge W/Rifle Bar.

He married Anna Biondo at Ft. Sill on June 3, 1959. Chilson attended Oklahoma Baptist University from 1956-1958. He also attended Cameron University from 1976-1980 receiving his B.A. in Sociology. Chilson was an instructor at Central Texas College at Ft. Sill from 1982 - 1985.

He enjoyed playing chess, fishing, camping, playing the harmonica, dancing, and participating in community activities. Chilson was a member of the Citizen Potawatomi Nation, Latin American Club, Life member of the VFW Post 1193, Cooties, American Legion, MOC, and Federal Retired Employees Association.

He is survived by his wife Anna Howell; seven children, Corliss S. Howell, Annamaria Simpson and fiancé Russell Golden, Deanna Howell, Liliane Taylor and husband Jay, JoAnn McKay and husband Robert, Sal Biondo and wife, Phoebe, Ben Biondo and wife Alana; three sisters, Janet Whitecotten, Esther Custer, and Joyce Burns; eleven grandchildren; and 10 great grandchildren.

**Charles H. "Dutch" Mabry**



Charles H. "Dutch" Mabry, 85, of Shawnee, Kansas passed away on February 15, 2007 at the Olathe, Kansas Medical Center. Services were held on February 19 at the Amos Family Chapel in Shawnee. A graveside service was held that afternoon at West Lawn Memorial Gardens in Topeka.

Dutch was born in Topeka. He was a machinist for the Bendix Corporation. He was a member of the Circle of Faith Disciples of Christ church, Masonic Lodge, VFW, and IAM.

Survivors include his wife, Charlotte I. Mabry of the home; three daughters, Sandra K. Sheble and husband Frank of Kansas City, Kansas, Marjorie I. Seger and husband Larry of Wichita, and Ada Marie Novak and husband Larry of Augusta,

Kansas; a son, Richard C. Mabry and wife An of Abilene, Texas; a brother, Phillip Mabry of New Mexico; 10 grandchildren; and eight great-grandchildren.

Contributions may be made to the American Heart Association or American Diabetes Association.

**Potawatomi Cornerstone, con't. from page 12**

to the treaty of 1867, the final disposition of their lands in Kansas for new lands in the Indian Territory.

The Reserve was the land from the north bank of the North Canadian River to the south bank of the South Canadian River and between the Indian Meridian on the west and the Seminole Indian Nation border on the east. There were 92 Allotments set aside by the act of 1872 and 1364 allotments set aside by the Act of 1887. The families and individuals who took this deal began their move southward, beginning with a fragmented party, in 1872.

This last relocation would span a period of more than 30 years. Five-hundred seventy-five families and individuals received the new allotments. Many made the journey; some stayed in Kansas and sold their Oklahoma allotments back to the government.

Today, only a handful of the original allotments exist.

**The CPN Office of Environmental Health Water & Septic System Assistance Program**

**Water and sewer system installation for Native Americans**  
**Call the OEH for information or assistance**  
**Telephone number 405-878-4672**  
**Fax number 405-878-4678**

**Requirements....**

- 1. CDIB card indicating affiliation with a federally recognized tribe**
- 2. Copy of a Warranty Deed**
- 3. A Photo ID**
- 4. Residence in Pottawatomie, Cleveland, Lincoln, Oklahoma, or Logan county**

**Learn more about the CPN Legislative Candidates and the change in Government Structure at [www.CPNElectionCentral.org](http://www.CPNElectionCentral.org)**